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NASTY WOMEN, UNITE!

Fight the patriarchy at these upcoming feminist events. 23

Wahlberg is Boston strong. 18

Giants should let JPP, Cruz leave. 27

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‘YOU ARE FAKE NEWS’

President-elect Donald Trump jousted with news media during his first press conference since the election. 4

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TILLERSON SUPPORTS SANCTIONS FOR NOW

Donald Trump's nominee for secretary of state, Rex Tillerson, said he favored maintaining current U.S. sanctions against Russia for now and that NATO allies were right to be alarmed by Moscow's aggression. But Tillerson's support for a more assertive policy toward Russia than Trump has espoused was tempered by his refusal to commit to support maintaining President Barack Obama's executive order authorizing additional sanctions against Moscow because of its interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election. Tillerson refused to call President Vladimir Putin a war criminal and kept the door open to a possible change in sanctions against Russia, saying he had not seen classified information on Russian meddling. REUTERS

US BLACKLISTS NORTH KOREAN OFFICIALS

2 The Treasury Department has added seven senior North Korean officials to its sanctions list because of human rights abuses and censorship by the communist nation. The department said that its Office of Foreign Assets Control added six men and one woman, all officials of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or the ruling Workers' Party of Korea, along with the Ministry of Labor and the State Planning Commission, to the Specially Designated Nationals List. "The North Korean regime not only engages in severe human rights abuses, but it also implements rigid censorship policies and conceals its inhumane and oppressive behavior," acting OFAC Director John Smith said in the statement, adding that the move aimed to expose the individuals responsible for the abuses. REUTERS

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See your city like you never have before. NASA astronaut Shane Kimbrough tweeted amazing photos of New York City, Philly, Atlantic City and others illuminated from space. Some say the East Coast resembles a lung — check it out online and let us know what you think!

metro.us/photos

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

CALIFORNIA FLOODING

5 A resident paddles his kayak through floodwaters on Wednesday in Guerneville, California. A new round of storms are bringing heavy rains and flooding to Northern California just days after rain and snow storms pounded the region bringing much needed water to drought-stricken California.

GETTY IMAGES

FACEBOOK TO IMPROVE TIES WITH NEWS MEDIA

3 Facebook Inc. launched its "Journalism Project" on Wednesday, as the world's biggest social media network looks to deepen its relationship with news organizations. The launch comes less than a week after the company said it was hiring former CNN reporter, anchor and host Campbell Brown to lead its news partnerships team.

As part of the new project, Facebook said on Wednesday it would focus on improving its current storytelling formats such as Live, 360, and Instant Articles. Facebook said it would test a feature using Instant Articles to allow readers to see multiple stories at a time, as a package, from their preferred news organizations. REUTERS

VW AGREES TO $4.3B US DIESEL SETTLEMENT

4 Volkswagen AG has agreed to a $4.3 billion settlement to resolve the U.S. government's civil and criminal investigations into the German automaker's diesel emissions cheating, according to documents made public Wednesday. Prosecutors also charged six Volkswagen executives and employees, for their roles in the nearly 10-year conspiracy, including Oliver Schmidt, who was a manager in charge of VW's environmental and engineering office in Michigan. On Monday, Schmidt was accused of conspiracy to defraud the United States over the company's emissions cheating and the automaker was charged with concealing the cheating from regulators. According to documents filed in U.S. District Court in Detroit, VW will pay a $1.5 billion civil fine and $2.8 billion criminal fine. REUTERS

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President-elect Donald Trump speaks at a news cenference at Trump Tower in NYC. GETTY IMAGES

Trump rejects 'fake news' of leaked intelligence memo

The memo claims that Russian officials possess sex tapes of Trump.

President-elect Donald Trump on Wednesday angrily denounced unsubstantiated claims he had been caught in a compromising position in Russia and attacked U.S. intelligence agencies over the leak of the information.

"I think it was disgraceful, disgraceful that the intelligence agencies allowed any information that turned out to be so false and fake out there," Trump told a chaotic news conference only days before he takes office.

Trump called the dossier that makes salacious claims about him "fake news" and "phony stuff." "I think it's a disgrace. ... That's something that Nazi Germany would have done," he said.

Trump acknowledged for the first time that Russia likely hacked the Democratic National Committee and the emails of other top Democrats during the 2016 presidential election. "I think it was Russia," he said.

But the New York businessman said other countries were also hacking the U.S. and defended his goal of better ties with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"If Putin likes Donald Trump, I consider that an asset, not a liability," Trump told about 250 reporters jammed into the lobby at his New York offices.

Asked whether he had a message for Putin about hacking, Trump said many countries were hacking the United States and added that he thought Moscow would have greater respect for his administration.

"He shouldn't be doing it. He won't be doing it," Trump said.

The president-elect has long said he hopes to improve ties with Moscow but his plans have come under intense scrutiny after U.S. intelligence agencies concluded that Russia used cyberattacks and other tactics to try to tilt the election in his favor over Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton.

Trump initially disparaged their conclusion that a Russian government hacking campaign was aimed at boosting his candidacy.

The Russia dossier that emerged late on Tuesday was first reported by CNN. BuzzFeed published the full document.

Two U.S. officials said the allegations, which one called "unsubstantiated," were contained in a two-page memo appended to a report on Russian interference in the 2016 election that was presented last week to Trump and to Obama. The memo also claims that Russian officials possessed sex tapes of Trump that could be used to blackmail him.

In the news conference, Trump declined to answer whether anyone connected to him or his campaign had contact with Moscow during the presidential campaign.

The event was a free-wheeling affair, with Trump aides cheering from the sidelines at one point and the president-elect angrily refusing to take questions from a CNN reporter.

During the news conference in the lobby of Trump Tower, the president-elect described how he will separate himself from his global business operations to avoid conflicts of interest once he takes office.

He also talked about how he plans to bring manufacturing jobs back from overseas. REUTERS

"I said that I will be the greatest jobs producer that God ever created. And I mean that, I really ... I'm going to work very hard on that." (On job creation)

"You are fake news." (To a CNN reporter)

"The 20th is going to be something that will be very, very special; very beautiful. And I think we're going to have massive crowds because we have a movement." (On the inauguration)

"We could make deals in Russia very easily if we wanted to."

RESTRUCTURING THE COMPANY

Trump says he'll let sons run his businesses

President-elect Donald Trump said on Wednesday he would maintain ownership of his global business empire but hand off control to his two oldest sons while president, an arrangement that watchdogs said would not prevent conflicts of interest in the White House.

Trump told a news conference he would resign from all positions overseeing his hotels, golf courses and hundreds of other businesses and move his assets into a trust to help ensure that he will not consciously take actions as president that would benefit him personally.

Trump is under pressure to distance himself from his businesses before he moves into the White House on Jan. 20. Unlike other government officials, the president is not required by law to steer clear of conflicts of interest.

"I could actually run my business and run government at the same time. I don't like the way that looks, but I would be able to do that if I wanted to," Trump said.

Ethics experts said the arrangement did not go far enough.

"Mr. Trump's ill-advised course will precipitate scandal and corruption," said Norman Eisen, a former White House ethics adviser under Democratic President Barack Obama.

Walter Shaub, director of the Office of Government Ethics, said on Wednesday in a speech at a Washington think tank that his office recommends Trump "divest his conflicting assets."

Trump appears to be still involved with his business while preparing to take office, saying he had turned down a $2 billion development deal in Dubai he had been offered over the weekend. REUTERS

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Five big-league NYC landlords slapped with discrimination charges

The Commission on Human Rights is taking brokers and property owners to task for denying housing to needy New Yorkers.

AMANDA MIKELBERG
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Parkchester Condominiums in the Bronx PARCH ESTER CONDOMINIUM/FACEBOOK

The city is charging five big New York City landlords with discrimination based on findings from an extensive year-long undercover investigation.

On Tuesday, the New York City Commission on Human Rights announced a list of landlords and brokerage firms — which in total operate 20,000 housing units — with a "pattern or practice" of "discrimination for repeatedly refusing to accept prospective tenants' government assistance housing vouchers, including Section 8 and Living in Communities (LINC) vouchers."

The companies charged are Parkchester South Condominiums (Bronx), ABECO Management (Brooklyn), Martini Properties (Bronx), and Goldfarb Properties (Manhattan, Bronx, Queens), the announcement said. Also among the charged is River Park Residences, owned by ex-Mets player Mo Vaughn under his company Omni New York LLC.

The undercover investigation involved 300 hundred "tests" in which investigators posed as prospective tenants presenting either independent or subsidized incomes. Frequently, the commission deployed "matched pair tests" in which both a voucher tenant and the non-subsidized tenant would inquire about the same apartment.

"We also have had just one tester present themselves as someone with a voucher, because the discrimination is so overt that we didn't need the matched pair," Hollis Fitch, deputy commissioner of the commission's law enforcement bureau, told Metro.

The practice of denying housing based on income source was made illegal under the city's Human Rights Law in 2008; any kind of federal, state or local public or housing assistance is considered legitimate income. The commission has cracked down on income-source discrimination particularly hard since 2014 through their Fair Housing Commission division, and also deployed a campaign of fliers, posters and advertisements making housing rights clear to residents.

"No landlord should get away with turning away tenants because they use government assistance to pay rent, which is why we … are working to ensure that everyone using housing vouchers can find and retain safe and affordable housing," Mayor Bill de Blasio said in a statement.

The brokers and landlords have 30 days to respond to the charges, after which the commission can fine them up to $250,000 for breaking the law, plus any compensatory damages to aggrieved tenants.

Metro reached out to the companies, but by press time only one representative, Juda Engelmayer for Mo Vaughn's Omni New York LLC, responded — and vigorously denied the accusations.

"It's false. Omni has 90 percent of its tenants on some form of public subsidy and they don't reject anyone. They currently have 40 tenants with LINC vouchers at River Park, and 80 across all their properties, and they are about to add 15 more at their new development," Engelmayer said.

An expanded version of this story can be seen at metro.us

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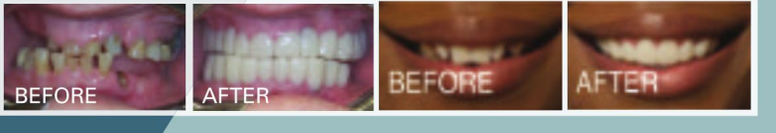

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The project would build upon two existing but incomplete trailways—the Hudson River Valley Greenway and the Erie Canalway (shown above). NPS

$200M trail will connect New York City to Canada

It would be the largest state multiuse trail in the nation.

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Joggers, walkers, cyclists, cross-country skiers and just about anyone who can move their feet will in the very near future be able to follow a single trail direct from the bottom of Manhattan all the way to the border of Canada.

On Wednesday Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced that the state would invest in building a $200 million Empire State Trail that would span 750 miles and become the largest state multiuse trail in the nation. The project would build upon two existing but incomplete trailways — the Hudson River Valley Greenway (now 50 percent complete) and the Erie Canalway (now 80 percent complete) — and essentially run from Battery Park City all the way up to the Canadian border in the North Country, and from Albany to Buffalo.

> *"The scenic natural beauty that spans every corner of this state is key to our prosperity, vital to our future and part of who we are as New Yorkers."*
>
> Gov. Cuomo

"The scenic natural beauty that spans every corner of this state is key to our prosperity, vital to our future and part of who we are as New Yorkers," Cuomo said in a press statement. "The Empire State Trail, once completed, will be the nation's largest state multiuse trail network, providing residents and visitors alike unprecedented access to New York's outdoor treasures, driving tourism and economic activity to communities across the state and helping to protect our environmental resources for generations to come."

According to the governor's office, the Hudson River Valley Greenway and the Erie Canalway already generate an estimated $21 million and $253 million, respectively, in economic activity from visitor spending annually. It's believed that closing the gaps in the two trails to create an uninterrupted stretch would be an economic boon to a New York state where tourism is already at a record high.

In all, 350 miles of new, paved and graded trail would need to be constructed. The plan envisions the trail traversing the state's dynamic geography and touching historic sites.

Cuomo says he will ask that $53 million be earmarked in the coming state budget to complete the first phase of construction, of which there will be three phases; the first phase to bring 72.6 miles of trail, the second to bring 82.2 miles, and the third phase would see another 196 miles of trail built. The "vast majority" of land needed for the project is already owned by the state.

The Empire State Trail is expected to be completed by 2020. Moreover, it will also be supported by an app and website highlighting a list of greenways, trails with hiking descriptions and their levels of difficulty, a live tour map, nearby services and attractions, and a slew of other features.

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City streets are becoming safer for pedestrians, thanks to Vision Zero, Mayor de Blasio says. GETTY IMAGES

Mayor: NYC records fewest traffic fatalities ever

De Blasio credits Vision Zero program for a steady decline in traffic deaths.

GARY KANE
@MetroNewYork
gary.kane@metro.us

Traffic fatalities in the city have dropped 23 percent since the start of the Vision Zero initiative in 2013, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced Wednesday.

"Under Vision Zero, we have now seen traffic fatalities in our city decline for three straight years, strongly countering national trends," he said in a news statement.

The mayor asserted that 229 people died in traffic accidents last year, the fewest ever recorded. In 2015, the city recorded 234 traffic deaths.

Traffic fatalities nationwide increased by more than 7 percent last year, the largest increase in 50 years, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Vision Zero is a national safety project aiming to dramatically reduce or eliminate traffic deaths.

In New York City, the program includes several strategies to reduce traffic accidents, ranging from redesigning roads to training bus drivers on safe driving practices.

Brooklyn led all boroughs with a record decline in traffic deaths. A total of 51 people died in traffic accidents in Brooklyn last year, nearly 25 percent fewer than in 2015.

The mayor also credited the "Cross This Way" curriculum with reducing traffic-related deaths of school-age children in the city. Three children were killed in traffic accidents last year. An average of eight school-age children died in accidents during the previous five years.

"Under Vision Zero, we have now seen traffic fatalities in our city decline for three straight years, strongly countering national trends."

Mayor Bill de Blasio

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BRIEFS

Police: Tennessee man shoots himself in Central Park

A man was found with a gunshot wound to the chest near Central Park Tuesday night, police said.

A bystander who heard a gunshot at about 8 p.m. near the Lasker ice skating rink in northern Central Park alerted a nearby police officer, who discovered the victim near 106th Street and East Drive.

The victim, whose name wasn't disclosed by officials, is in critical condition at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital.

Officials believe the man walked out of the park before he collapsed on the sidewalk. A semiautomatic weapon was found in close proximity, near a bridge on the northern side of the ice rink.

The man, 30, is from Tennessee. His family had contacted their local police department after he disappeared soon after purchasing a gun.

NIKKI M. MASCALI

Workshops set for affordable housing lottery at revamped Domino Sugar property

With the deadline for its affordable housing lottery looming, two workshops are planned to help low-income New Yorkers interested in living in the new residential building at the site of the former Domino Sugar factory in Brooklyn.

An artist's rendering of 325 Kent, the first residential building that will open at the renovated site of the former Domino Sugar factory in Williamsburg PROVIDED

The lottery for 325 Kent Ave., which will be the first building to open at the renovated property on the Williamsburg waterfront, ends Jan. 30.

Two bilingual workshops will take place to ensure "people understand the process, including qualification guidelines," Ramon Peguero, director of Southside United, said in a release. "Those whose names are ultimately called need to have all eligibility information in order so they have the best possible opportunity to secure an apartment."

The residences "are identical to market-rate apartments, with the same finishes and fixtures, the same entrance and the same access to building amenities," Two Trees managing director David Lombino added.

The 16-story building has set aside 105 of the 522 units as below market rate. It will be the first residence to open on the 11-acre property of the former Domino Sugar factory. The entire complex of buildings will eventually include 2,300 total apartments, 700 of them affordable units for low-income families. It will also have 500,000 square feet of office space and a 6-acre public park.

Southside United, Two Trees Management and Churches United for Fair Housing partnered to present

The first information session will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Clemente Senior Center at 60 Division Ave. The next session will be at 6:30 p.m. Jan, 19 at Swinging Sixties Senior Center, located at 211 Ainslie St.

Additionally, application assistance will be available on a walk-in basis at City Council Member Antonio Reynoso's office at 244 Union Ave. from 1 to 4 p.m. every Thursday, through Jan. 26. NIKKI M. MASCALI

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Transit workers negotiate for higher wages with contract set to expire

The contract for thousands of New York City transit workers expires in a few days, and union officials negotiating a new deal with the MTA are seeking salaries on par with other divisions the agency operates.

The 44,000 transit workers affected by the collective bargaining agreement that expires Jan. 15 are hoping to receive more than the existing 2 percent pay increase, Transit Workers Union spokesman Jim Gannon told Metro. The TWU represents most of those unionized workers. Another 6,000 workers are not union members.

Negotiations will continue over the next week and a spokesman for the MTA said the agency could not comment on ongoing talks.

"In general, the [MTA] has 'budgeted' a 2 percent labor cost increase in their projected budget," Gannon said. "That's not necessarily what they've offered, but it might be a clue of where they are willing to go."

TWU Local 100 President John Samuelsen, right, speaks with former MTA chief John Lhota, center, prior to 2012 contract negotiations. MTA/FLICKR

The average compensation for a New York City Transit employee — whose ranks include subway and city bus employees — was $75,891 in 2015, according to figures published by the New York City Independent Budget Office. Their counterparts at the Long Island Rail Road make an average salary of $95,652.

Average gross pay for the MTA police was $132,803 in 2015, the IBO report shows. The police force, however, accounts for less than 1 percent of the MTA's entire labor force.

Meanwhile, more than 15 percent of Metro-North employees earned over $150,000 a year, the IBO said.

MTA workers across all divisions make an average of $80,158.

The only divisions earning less than NYC Transit are workers from the MTA Bridges & Tunnel, who earn an average of $71,570, and MTA bus employees, who earn approximately $72,800 a year.

An expanded version can be seen at metro.us

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BRIEF

New Jersey's Monmouth University to host Bruce Springsteen archive

A university in U.S. rock icon Bruce Springsteen's home state of New Jersey will be home to a collection of decades' worth of works and memorabilia from his Grammy Award-winning career, a school spokeswoman said on Wednesday.

Monmouth University will establish the Bruce Springsteen Archives and Center for American Music at its campus in the borough of West Long Branch, just miles from Asbury Park where he forged his career. The archive will include all of the "Born to Run" singer's recorded works as well as posters, photos, articles and other artifacts.

The center "will preserve and promote the legacy of Bruce Springsteen and his role in American music," the university said in a statement. It will also highlight the work of other American musicians, including Woody Guthrie, Frank Sinatra and Robert Johnson.

It will include a collection housed at Monmouth University since 2011, and will continue to accept works and memorabilia from Springsteen, fans and other donors, school spokeswoman Tara Peters said.

The archives will be available for viewing by the public by appointment only at Monmouth, which is one of nine university affiliates of the Grammy Museum in Los Angeles, Peters said.

Springsteen, 67, who rose from playing in the gritty clubs of the Jersey Shore to international superstardom, has long maintained a home in, and close ties to, his Garden State roots.

When the New Jersey coastline was battered by Hurricane Sandy in 2012, Springsteen, along with fellow New Jersey native Jon Bon Jovi, headlined a concert to benefit victims of the storm. REUTERS

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Official: US deploys high-tech radar amid heightened N. Korea rhetoric

This image shows the SBX radar docked at Pearl Harbor, its de facto home base on Jan. 20, 2013, in Honolulu, Hawaii. GETTY IMAGES

Earlier this month, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said that the isolated, nuclear-capable country was close to test-launching an intercontinental ballistic missile.

A high-tech sea-based U.S. military radar has left Hawaii to monitor for potential North Korean intercontinental ballistic missile test launches, a U.S. defense official said on Wednesday.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the radar, known as the Sea-based X-band radar (SBX), left on Monday and would reach its destination, about 2,000 miles northwest of Hawaii, toward the end of January.

The radar is able to track ICBMs and differentiate between hostile missiles and those that are not a threat.

On Tuesday, U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter said the U.S. military might monitor a North Korean intercontinental ballistic missile test and gather intelligence rather than destroy it, as long as the launch did not pose a threat.

"If the missile is threatening, it will be intercepted. If it's not threatening, we won't necessarily do so," Carter said,

"Because it may be more to our advantage to, first of all, save our interceptor inventory, and, second, to gather intelligence from the flight, rather than do that [intercept the ICBM] when it's not threatening."

Carter's remarks came just over a week after U.S. President-elect Donald Trump vowed that North Korea would never fulfill its threat to test an ICBM. Trump said in a Jan. 2 tweet: "It won't happen!"

"The SBX's current deployment is not based on any credible threat; however, we cannot discuss specifics for this particular mission while it is underway," Commander Gary Ross, a Pentagon spokesman, said. REUTERS

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Fury, forgiveness at condemned SC church gunman's sentencing

As they spoke, several family members asked Roof to look at them. He did not.

"I want your soul to burn in hell."

Gayle Jackson, a niece of victim Susie Jackson

People enter the federal courthouse building prior to arraignment hearings for Dylann Roof July 31, 2015, in Charleston, South Carolina. GETTY IMAGES

White supremacist Dylann Roof, condemned to death for a mass shooting at a Charleston, South Carolina, church, heard forgiveness and fury at his sentencing hearing on Wednesday from grieving loved ones of the nine slain black parishioners.

Some victims' family members called the 22-year-old Roof evil and deserving of the death penalty for the June 17, 2015, attack at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, the oldest African-American congregation in the American South.

"I want your soul to burn in hell," said Gayle Jackson, a niece of 87-year-old victim Susie Jackson.

Others said their Christian faith required them to forgive. They echoed comments at Roof's first court appearance after the shooting, where several victims' relatives shocked the country with their merciful tone toward the suspect.

"I wanted to hate you, God, I wanted to hate you, but my faith told me no," Bethane Middleton Brown, sister of victim DePayne Middleton Doctor, 49, said on Wednesday.

A jury of nine whites and three blacks last month found Roof guilty of 33 federal charges, including hate crimes and obstruction of religion resulting in death. On Tuesday, the jurors recommended he be put to death.

Wednesday's sentencing by U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel was a formality after the jury's unanimous verdict. Roof, who also faces a death sentence if convicted of state murder charges, is unlikely to be executed anytime soon due to a lengthy appeals process.

"I wish they could enact another law to cut off a limb each time you go up to appeal," said Tyrone Sanders, whose son, Tywanza Sanders, 26, died in the shooting.

Also killed were Clementa Pinckney, 41, the church's pastor and a state senator; Sharonda Coleman Singleton, 45; Cynthia Hurd, 54; Ethel Lance, 70; Myra Thompson, 59; and Daniel Simmons Sr., 74.

Roof, representing himself during the penalty phase, presented no evidence and did not argue that his life be spared. REUTERS

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Wall Street ends choppy session higher, health lags on Trump comments

U.S. stocks ended higher after a choppy day on Wednesday as energy and technology gains countered a drop in health care stocks after President-elect Donald Trump said pharmaceutical companies were "getting away with murder" by charging high prices.

The Nasdaq ended the day with another record closing high after falling as much as 0.5 percent after Trump's first formal news conference since the Nov. 8 election.

The S&P 500 health-care index .SPXHC ended the session down 1 percent after falling as much as 1.9 percent earlier in the day and the Nasdaq biotechnology index. NBI sank 2.96 percent, ending a six-day winning streak for both indexes.

"When somebody that high profile says something that negative, people do not want to invest in it. They view the sector as uninvestible, and withdraw their money," Brad Loncar, manager of the Loncar Cancer Immunotherapy ETF.

Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange in New York City

GETTY IMAGES

However, the sector's pain eased as the session wore on as money managers noted that Trump gave no new specific details on his health care proposals, according to Michael Scanlon, portfolio manager at Manulife Asset Management in Boston.

Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shortly after the opening bell in New York, U.S., January 9, 2017. REUTERS/Lucas Jackson - RTX2Y5P9

He cited the beginning of fourth-quarter earnings season on Friday and Trump's inauguration as President on Jan. 20 as reasons for investor caution.

"Portfolio managers have every reason in the world to sit on their hands," said Scanlon. "You put those two factors together and I don't think you're going to see much movement in the market until maybe we get some fireworks on Friday with earnings."

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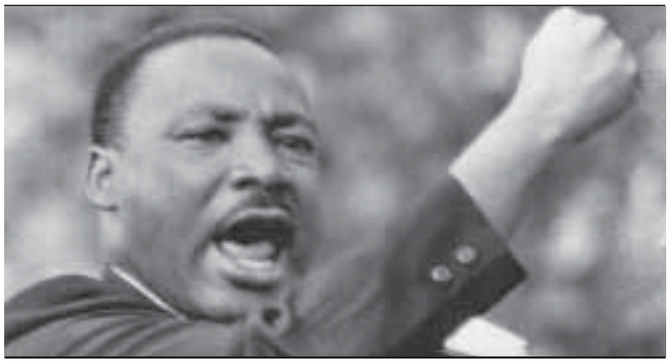

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• Dental Assistant	M, W	03/13-6/14/17	6pm-9pm
• Pharmacy Technician	T, W, TH	02/28-5/16/17	10am-1pm
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• ESL/Inglés como Segundo Idioma	M, W	02/2-4/19/17	6pm-9pm
• ESL/Inglés como Segundo Idioma	T, TH	02/7-4/19/17	6pm-9pm
• HSE English	T, TH	02/14-05/04/17	9:30am-12:30pm
• HSE English	T, TH	02/14-05/04/17	6pm-9pm
• HSE Spanish	M, W	02/6-05/03/17	9:30-12:30pm
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Selena Gomez hooks up with the Weeknd

Fresh off a social-media detox (and some chill-out time in rehab), Selena Gomez returned to Instagram with a few posts and a heavily documented makeout session with Bella Hadid's ex, the Weeknd. She and the "Starboy" singer were photographed getting cuddly outside Santa Monica's Giorgio Baldi after a three-hour private dinner, according to Us Weekly. The magazine cites an unnamed source who said they look "really in love," which sounds, like, really true.

In case you forgot, Bella's sister Gigi is an active member of Taylor Swift's squad, alongside Gomez, making this clear grounds for beef. The "Kill 'Em With Kindness" singer's hookup comes days after her Instagram Live confessional, in which she noshed on Mexican food and dissed "pointless dinners" and emotionally empty "friends." Guess we know who won't be invited next year's Fourth of July Instagram bonanza.

the word

Kirsten Dunst and Jesse Plemons are engaged

Fans of "Fargo" on FX will be excited to hear the news: Jesse Plemons and Kirsten Dunst, who play onscreen couple Ed and Peggy Blumquist in Season 2, are now engaged, Page Six reports.

The two were outed as a couple back in May, when paparazzi revealed them locking lips in L.A. The makeout sesh was not long after Dunst had parted ways with her "On the Road" co-star Garrett Hedlund.

Those who don't watch FX's Midwestern noir (seriously, change that now) may recall Plemons from "Friday Night Lights," where he played Matt "QB 1" Saracen's lovable, nerdy sidekick Landry. He also had a brief turn on Season 5 of "Breaking Bad" as Todd Alquist, a dirtbag meth cook for Walter White. Congrats to the betrothed!

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Yes, Joseph Fiennes playing Michael Jackson is a real thing

Remember about a year ago when news broke that Joseph Fiennes was going to play '80s Michael Jackson? You probably don't; a lot has happened since. Back then, the internet righteously raised its collective fist in anger. Then, as the internet often does, it completely forgot about it. Well, the trailer for the latest episode of "Urban Myths," a star-studded British series relating made-up true stories, went live, bearing with it the sight of Fiennes as the King of Pop. And the internet went apoplectic again. There's a lot to unpack here: Not only is it a lily-white thespian playing a very pale black icon, but he looks like he's wearing a Michael Myers mask, or the featureless one Tom Cruise dons after his face gets mucked up in "Vanilla Sky." The episode's director, Ben Palmer, has since been forced to defend his casting to The Guardian, railing against charges of "whitewashing" by saying, "We were really looking for the performance that could unlock the spirit, and we really think Joe Fiennes has done that." We guess, but that's what they all say when white cis actors are cast as black, brown, trans, etc. characters. And maybe if he didn't sound like Eric Cartman, that might be all we were talking about.

Why Mark Wahlberg almost didn't do 'Patriots Day'

GETTY IMAGES

Mark Wahlberg wasn't sure he wanted to be in "Patriots Day." When he first heard about the film, about the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing and the search for the Tsarnaev brothers, the actor had some concerns.

"There were some things that weren't that positive in the local press," Wahlberg tells us. For one, there was a lot of talk about it being too soon. Some were worried it wouldn't be respectful enough.

"I didn't know if the community shared those same sentiments," Wahlberg recalls. "I was able to go home and talk to people and let them know what our intentions were. Once we were able to communicate that, they were extremely supportive. It was one of those things where people wanted to make sure we got it right and hold me accountable."

"Patriots Day," which reunites Wahlberg with his "Lone Survivor" and "Deepwater Horizon" director Peter Berg, follows Wahlberg's Tommy Saunders — a police sergeant, who unlike everyone else onscreen, is a composite character — as he helps in the aftermath of the attack on his city's people. It's not the only film coming out about the tragedy; "Stronger," a more somber affair in which Jake Gyllenhaal plays a survivor who lost his legs, arrives out later this year. That there were so many films about something that happened in Wahlberg's hometown — at one point a third was being discussed — was part of why he signed on.

"I felt like if they were going to make them, I needed to be involved, because I know how to handle it and make sure it's done in a respectful and sensitive way. The wrong person can come in there and it could be something they would want to exploit it," Wahlberg explains. "Being from Boston, I saw how people responded, from all walks of life — how everyone came together and ran towards the problem."

Back home

"Patriots Day" also brings the Boston native back to his hometown, which has happened a lot, thanks to Boston-set movies like "The Departed" and the "Ted" movies.

"I was just there. I took my sons to a football game," he says. "I try to get back as often as possible. But it's hard, because I live in L.A., my kids go to school there. But I try to get there at least twice a year. It's nice that work has brought me back quite often."

As for that accent, Wahlberg says it's not hard to bring it back when he's in town.

"It comes back quick. You can turn that right on," he explains. "But it's hard to turn it off."

To him, the film is less about the tragedy than about the hope and unity that took over in the wake of the incident. Still, Wahlberg feels "Patriots Day" isn't strictly a Boston story.

"This is something that's happening all over the world," he says, rattling off places like Nice and San Bernardino and Newtown that have suffered attacks or massacres. "We want to give a message of love and hope and strength and resiliency. Despite these cowardly acts of terrorism, we're going to come together."

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Speak up, like Meryl did

Meryl Streep delivered a Trump-heavy speech while accepting the Cecil B. DeMille Award for lifetime achievement at the 2017 Golden Globes. GETTY IMAGES

Geek Girl in Hollywood

JENNA BUSCH
legionofleia.com

A lot has been written about Meryl Streep's Golden Globes speech. She called out Donald Trump on a lot of things, though she never mentioned him by name. She chastised him for mocking a disabled reporter, something he keeps denying despite the evidence. (Really, it's like he thinks these things just disappear from the internet.)

Some have criticized her speech for lauding Hollywood while saying that sports are not an art form. "Hollywood is crawling with outsiders and foreigners," she said. "And if you kick 'em all out, you'll have nothing to watch but football and mixed martial arts, which are not the arts." For the record, I disagree. As someone who does not have an iota of talent in the sports world, I am in awe of the work.

That said, I'm going to defend her speech. I'll defend anyone's speech at an awards show, whether or not I agree. I do agree with most of what she said. I know Hollywood has a lot of rich people. I know it's been said a number of times that she was speaking to a room full of millionaires. Yeah, she was. She was also speaking to everyone who was watching the show.

Here's the thing: If you have a platform and you believe strongly in something, you say it. Her message got out there, enough that Trump had to petulantly defend himself on Twitter. (Though to be fair, it doesn't take much for him to lash out. Again, the evidence is there.)

There are two things I want to say about Hollywood. First, there are a lot of us in L.A. who aren't millionaires. There are a lot of us here who live paycheck to paycheck. Hollywood is not just actors who make a ton of money. There are grips, makeup artists, reporters who cover it, etc., who make very little. I rarely, if ever, discussed politics before this election. Now I can't keep silent. I have a much smaller platform, of course, and I've certainly never won an Oscar, but I have to call out the things I see. I'm watching friends on social media who have never discussed politics do the same.

The second thing is, Hollywood has a lot of problems. Its lack of racial and gender diversity, its inability to pay women and men the same salary — these are all huge issues. The #OscarsSoWhite and #AskHerMore campaigns didn't come out of a vacuum. Its issues, however, do not preclude someone like Streep, despite her money and how different her life is from ours, from making a speech about something she's passionate about. None of us should remain silent. None of us really can anymore.

It's time to speak up. People spewing hate and racist, sexist and homophobic crap aren't keeping themselves silent. Speak up, no matter where you are, what you do or how much money you make. Speak up whether you've won an Oscar or a trophy for your fifth-grade soccer team. Call out hatred everywhere, in a group, on TV or in a room with one other person. Meryl Streep spoke from her heart. So can you. So can we all.

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■ My toes aren't straight– they are all cocked-up, bent and hurt.
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■ I have corns on my toes which get thick no matter what shoe size I wear.
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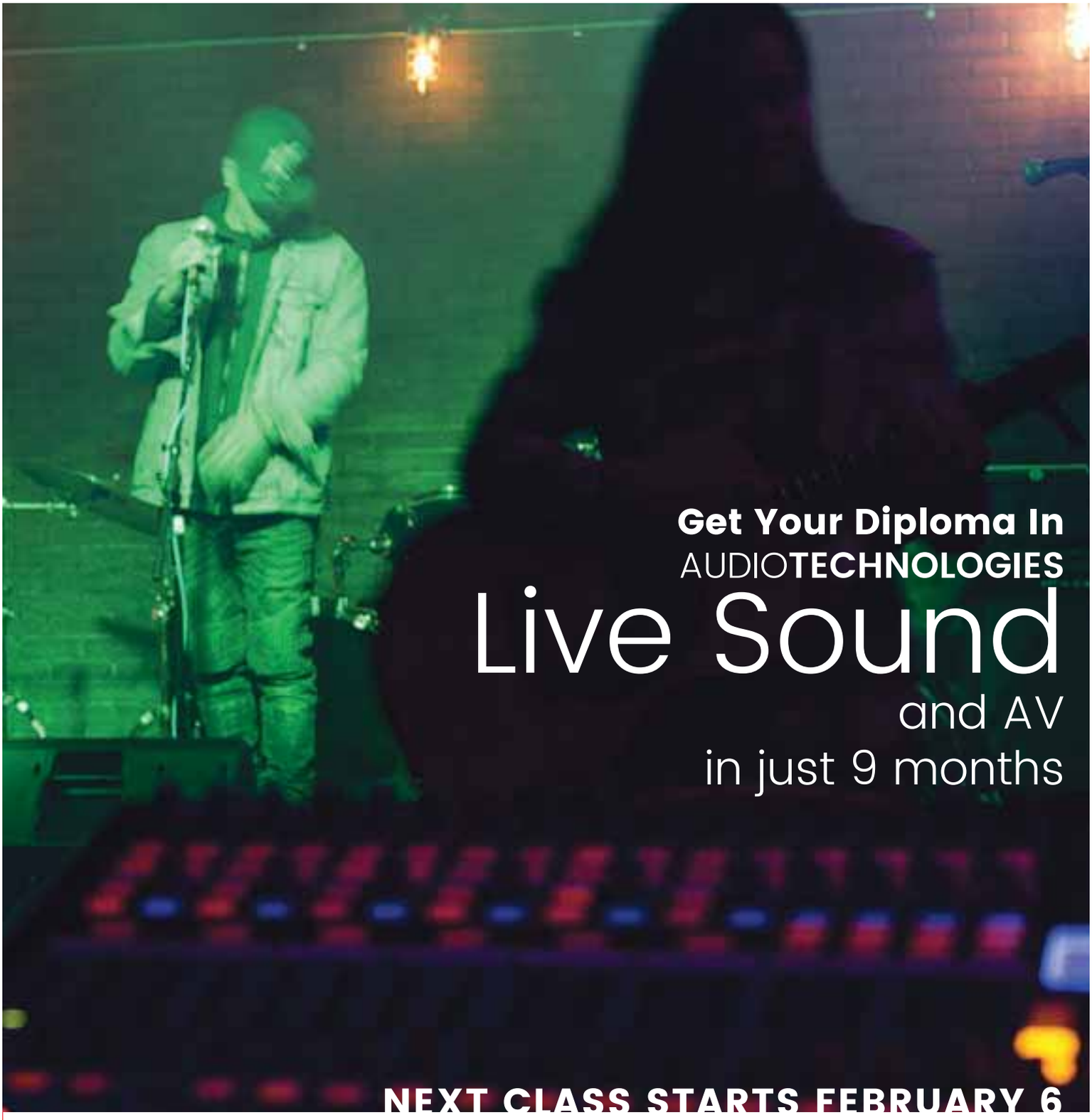

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Grrl power gets political

"American Angst" is among the feminist works on display at Untitled Space. ANNIKA CONNOR

It's about to get a lot harder to be a woman, so get educated, get active and support feminist causes.

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
eva.kis@metro.us

Feminists Take on Presidency

We're not the only ones with a political crisis on our hands — South Korea impeached it's female president, Park Geun-hye, after a scandal, that "was not interpreted as the failure of a president, but as the failure of women," according to co-organizers Femidangdang. They join local activists to talk about misogyny in politics. *Jan. 14, 6 p.m., free, DCTV #3, 87 Lafayette St., RSVP at eventbrite.com*

"Uprise/Angry Women"

Pick a topic, and the 80 artists selected by Untitled Space gallery's Indira Cesarine have addressed it in their works: sexism, racism, stereotyping, discrimination, women's rights. See their powerful art and take a piece home to remind yourself to keep fighting — a portion of proceeds will go to the Equal Rights Amendment Coalition. *Jan. 17-28, 6 p.m., free, 45 Lispenard St., Unit 1W, untitled-space.com*

Happy Anniversary, Roe v. Wade

Every day is a good day to fight the patriarchy for comedian Adrienne Truscott, known for her risque confrontation of rape culture in her show "Asking for It." She's one of the headliners for this fundraising party at Brooklyn's hip taco joint El Cortez, where you'll also groove to DJ'ed tunes, get tattooed and more, with proceeds going to the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health in honor of Roe v. Wade's 44th (and hopefully not last) anniversary. *Jan. 18, 7 p.m., $15-$50, 17 Ingraham St., Brooklyn, bit.ly/roeparty*

Snatch Back!

This fundraiser benefits the Lady Parts Justice League in their ongoing battle for reproductive freedom. Sing along to Dayna Kurtz's drinking hymns, see a musical about tampon applicators, cheer the Pussy Grabs Back anti-Trump brass band and tons more performances. As with all Gemini & Scorpio events, RSVP to get the location. *Jan. 19, 7 p.m., $25, geminiandscorpio.com*

See Adrienne Truscott at Happy Anniversary Roe v. Wade. RICHARD HARDCASTLE

Women's March on NYC

The big march on Washington, D.C., during Inauguration Weekend will have a New York edition, with over 50,000 people registered so far. The march will start at One Dag Hammarskjold Plaza and go right up to the doorstep of Trump Tower, where live music and speakers will keep protesters fired up. Register in advance to get your start time. *Jan. 21, 11 a.m., free, meet at 48th Street and First Avenue, thehumanfirstsociety.org*

"Virgin Writes"

In Greek mythology, Iphigenia becomes a pawn for the gods after her father offends Artemis. Don't like the idea of a woman having to pay for the crimes of a man? This new interpretation, coming to Pioneer Works, will reclaim the story using butoh, a Japanese theatrical style created to reject the Western influences of ballet and other art forms after World War II, with songs written and performed by Grammy winner Esperanza Spalding. *Jan. 27, 7 p.m., $25, 159 Pioneer St., Red Hook pioneerworks.org*

The Hidden 1950s

Since the new administration is likely to turn back the clock on a lot of the social progress women have made in the last 70 years, it's time to turn to the mothers and grandmothers who didn't just live through a more repressive era, but thrived and effected change. Famous biographer Patricia Bosworth, who has turned the lens on herself with a new memoir, and "Fear of Flying" author Erica Jong, who controversially wrote about female sexuality, and other guests will discuss the dark side of that most idealized of American eras, the 1950s. *Feb. 2, 8 p.m., $40, 92Y, Lexington Avenue and 92nd Street, 92y.org*

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LEXINGTON PLASTIC SURGEONS

"The Nasty Woman", 2016 Naoko Tadotsu PROVIDED

10-foot tall, 3D letters spelling "Nasty Women" will display the artwork. PROVIDED

"Ungrabbable" 2016, Priscilla Stadler PROVIDED

The Nasty Women Art Exhibition opens tonight

See over 700 "Nasty Woman"-inspired artworks Thursday-Sunday at The Knockdown Center.

KATE MOONEY
@yatinbrooklyn
kate.mooney@metro.us

The idea for the Nasty Women Art Exhibition, opening tonight at the Knockdown Center, was born out of a desire to connect and cope in the wake of a Trump presidency.

Like so many, Roxanne Jackson was feeling "shocked and defeated" in the aftermath of the presidential election. But when the Bushwick-based ceramic artist attended a protest at Trump Tower that Saturday, marching alongside friends and fellow New York-based artists and curators, like Jessamyn Fiore and Angel Bellaran, she felt inspired to organize rather than agonize.

"It planted the seed by giving me the motivation to be active," she explains. "Being active in that march made me feel a lot more positive, and that would be something that could get me through the reality of a Trump presidency."

The following Monday morning, she posted on Facebook, "Hello female artists/curators! Let's organize a NASTY WOMEN group show!!! Who's interested???" then logged off to teach a ceramics class. When she checked back hours later, she found an overwhelming number of responses from artists excited to get involved.

She soon connected with Fiore, who would co-direct the show, and Bellaran, who would serve as curatorial adviser. They formed a Nasty Women team of organizers and put out a call for submissions. They agreed not to turn any artists away. The only requirements: that works come from "self-identifying Nasty Women"; that they not exceed 12 inches in any direction; and that they be priced at $100 or less, with 100 percent of all purchases benefiting Planned Parenthood.

"Afro Puff" 2015, Angela Pilgrim PROVIDED

Fiore, who serves on the Knockdown Center's curatorial advisory board, brought the idea to the venue's co-director Michael Merk, who was immediately sold. "Our scale and the fluidity of our programming is designed for projects just like these — multifaceted and far-reaching programs that defy disciplinary boundaries and engage diverse communities," Merk says.

To accommodate the massive outpouring of artwork, which numbers between 700 and 1,000 pieces, Jackson and her team devised an exhibition plan — an artistic feat in itself: All pieces will be displayed on or inside 10-foot-tall, freestanding 3D hot-pink letters that spell out "Nasty Women." Externally, the works will be hung on durable mesh, with additional pieces lining the structure's internal shelves.

The exhibition is "cash and carry," with attendees able to purchase art and literally take it off the letter that night. Although the show runs through Sunday, ideally, the letters will be stripped bare by the end of opening night, says Jackson. "[That would] be a testament to the amount of money that's been raised for Planned Parenthood," she explains. "If the show is naked letters, so be it! It will still be a monumental display."

This is just the beginning. Currently, 27 Nasty Women art exhibitions are confirmed in cities worldwide, from Phoenix to Brussels, Belgium. Those interested in organizing their own Nasty Women Art Show should visit the "Other Nasty venues" page on the website, Jackson says.

Through the duration of the New York show, the Knockdown Center will keep the momentum going with "Stay Nasty" four days of music, comedy and workshops, with ticket sales benefiting progressive organizations like Callen-Lorde Community Health Center and the New York Immigration Coalition.

If you go

Nasty Women Art Exhibition
Opening reception
Tonight, 7 p.m.- 10 p.m.
Friday, 5 p.m.-9 p.m., Saturday, 2 p.m.-8 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

Knockdown Center
52-19 Flushing Ave.
nastywomenexhibition.org

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
eva.kis@metro.us

EAT LIKE AN INSIDER

Fallon Seymour

It never snows in Trinidad, the homeland of Caribbean restaurant Pearl's co-owner Fallon Seymour. "My first year here, I was like, 'I don't even know how humans live like this,'" she recalls.

She and her husband, John, hadn't intended to open the Williamsburg restaurant in the dead of winter last January, but luckily her Trinidadian family recipes are also perfect when the temps drop. During winter, Pearl's (178 N. Eighth St.) menu changes from salads and ceviches to Caribbean soups and stews "to warm my soul a little bit," says Seymour. Of course, you'll still find the ever-popular Bake and Shrimp (like a po'boy with a rainbow of sauces on fried bread).

When she's not helping Brooklynites beat the cold, we asked Seymour where she likes to go.

Late night

"I like this place called **Coppelia**, it's just a great fun spot and they're open 24 hours — a great plus after a long night. If I'm staying local in Williamsburg, **Kellogg's Diner** is open all the time." *207 W. 14th St., Chelsea; 518 Metropolitan Ave.*

Out-of-town guests

"My out-of-town guests are always Trinidadian, and they have never had chicken and waffles, that is something extremely foreign to them, so I always take all of them to **Sweet Chick**." *179 Ludlow St., Lower East Side; 164 Bedford Ave., Williamsburg*

Bake and Shrimp
ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED

Take the kids

"**The Saint Austere**, it has a lot of tapas which is great for sharing, and they have some nice drinks as well. Also I love and the kids love to go to **Roberta's** in Bushwick, they have that great outdoor area and I think every kid in the entire world loves pizza." *613 Grand St., Williamsburg; 261 Moore St.*

Hidden gem

"I'm kind of obsessed with **Pates e Traditions**, it's a tiny little place that specializes in crepes. I've been going there probably for five or six years for lunch, and I'm surprised there's not a line out the door because they're amazing, and the service is great as well." *52 Havemeyer St., Williamsburg*

Best under $10

"When I'm in the city, I really love **Uncle Gussy's**. It's a little Greek food truck and they do pizza, sandwiches and it's $8, it's super fast and very tasty." *345 Park Ave., Midtown East*

Date night

"I love sushi at **Zenkichi**. I've never been to any place like it — each booth has bamboo blinds that make it cozy and intimate and absolutely romantic, and whenever the server comes she lifts up the blinds then pulls it down. The food is great as well." *77 N. Sixth St., Williamsburg*

Favorite bar

"**Freehold**, they have a huge outdoor area with a lot of games, which makes it very fun, and the drinks are affordable. That's great to go with a group or even just one person, it's a great vibe." *45 S. Third St., Williamsburg*

See another side of Steven Spielberg

Look at very young Christian Bale in 1987's "Empire of the Sun." PHOTOFEST

Last year was so bad that a Steven Spielberg film bombed. No one much saw "The BFG," which is a shame because it was lovely — and further proof, if required, that his movies are more than mere cash cows. Further proof still can be found in the book "Steven Spielberg: A Life in Films," in which Molly Haskell, god among film critics and author of the groundbreaking "From Reverence to Rape: How Hollywood Treats Women," trains her uncommonly perceptive (and often critical) gaze upon his CV.

Haskell's new tome is reason enough to fire up some Spielbergs. Five of them grace the screens at LES' Metrograph, and not the obvious faves. They tend to either be a little too young to be considered classics ("Minority Report," "Catch Me If You Can") or still awaiting reappraisal. "The Lost World," his propulsive "Jurassic Park" sequel, was profitable yet maligned, which qualifies it as underrated. Meanwhile, some of us always adored "A.I. Artificial Intelligence." The World War II saga "Empire of the Sun" finds the eternal optimist tackling eternal pessimist J.G. Ballard, and revealing Spielberg is maybe not so sunny after all. MATT PRIGGE

If you go

Spielberg by Haskell
Jan. 14-18
The Metrograph
7 Ludlow St.
metrograph.com

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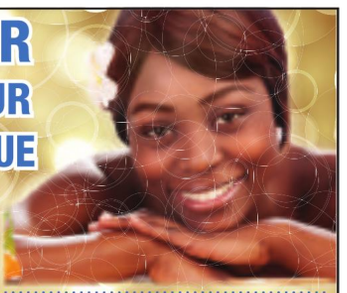

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YOUR WEEKEND STARTS NOW

VIRTUAL REALITY

First Look: Artists' VR

It's not just video game makers who are exploring the possibilities of virtual reality. The New Museum is offering the public a preview of the kinds of new works being developed by five artists, who will demonstrate their works and discuss the possibilities and challenges of the medium. Pieces include "a queer fantasia set in an industrial nightclub," "a mutating labyrinth" and a simulation of the afterlife. Google Arts & Culture will provide free Cardboard headsets to attendees.
Jan. 12, 7 p.m., $20, 235 Bowery, newmuseum.org

FILM

Capote on Screen: "Breakfast at Tiffany's"

The Brooklyn Historical Society's new exhibit "Truman Capote's Brooklyn: The Lost Photographs of David Attie" will be accompanied by screenings of the author's adapted works, starting with his classic novella "Breakfast at Tiffany's" starring Audrey Hepburn. The screening, the first of a four-part series, is free with RSVP.
Jan. 12, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., free, 128 Pierrepont St., brooklynhistory.org

PARTY

House of Love

This progressive sex party at House of Yes only comes around once every three months, so don your sexiest outfit (impressive duds are necessary for admission) and revel in every kind of carnal desire at a pop-up strip club, BDSM dungeon, rooftop hot tub, wax experimentation, cuddle puddles and lots of secret rooms where anything (short of actual sex) may happen.
Jan. 13, 10 p.m., $15-$35, 2 Wyckoff Ave., Bushwick, houseofyes.org

MUSIC

Zlatne Uste Golden Festival

For three decades, the Zlatne Uste Golden Festival has been celebrating Balkan and Romani music in Brooklyn. Don't expect to sit quietly — these concerts, hosted by the Zlatne Uste Brass Band, turn into raucous affairs, with tons of dancing and musicians mingling in the crowd. This year's fest includes two days of concerts from over 60 bands across four stages at Grand Prospect Hall. There will also be food and drink for sale inspired by culinary traditions in the Balkan Peninsula, as well as the Balkan Market selling jewelry, crafts and clothes. Profits go toward Balkan education and relief efforts.
Jan. 13-14, 263 Prospect Ave., Brooklyn, $35-$80 goldenfest.org

Harlem Gospel Choir

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the "World Famous" Harlem Gospel Choir performs a matinee concert at B.B. King's Blues Club and Grill. Their tribute to the renowned activist will include uplifting songs performed in gospel tradition. The annual concert also celebrates the founding of the choir in 1986, originally inspired by a performance in homage to the reverend. A lunch menu will be available, with a food and drink minimum for tables and first-come, first-served seating.
Jan. 16, 12:30 p.m., 237 W. 42nd St., $25-$30, bbkingblues.com

FOOD

United States of Chop Suey

There's one dish that Chinese restaurants owe their early success to: chop suey. Learn more about this iconic food with two experts on the dish: Heather Lee, author of "Chop Suey Corridor," and Anne Mendelson, author of "Chow Chop Suey." They'll delve into the ugly early history of why Chinese immigrants had to fall back on opening restaurants, how they translated Chinese cuisine for American palates and, ultimately, how they influenced all culinary culture.
Jan. 12, 6 p.m., 62 Bayard St., Brooklyn $10, mofad.org

EVA KIS

CRAFTS

VOGUEknitting Live

If you find your bliss between purl one and knit two, you can enjoy a full weekend of festivities dedicated to your passion this weekend at VOGUEknitting Live. The event includes classes for all levels of knitters, plus an exhibition and lounge. There's also a marketplace with giveaways, book signings, panels, activities, games and fashion shows. When your hands and arms get tense, participate in Yoga for Knitters or enjoy a free massage at the Metamorphosis Day Spa.
Jan. 13-15, Marriott Marquis, 1535 Broadway, $20-$799, vogueknittinglive.com

ARTS

Fire This Time Festival

Just in time for Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the Fire This Time Festival turns a spotlight on not only African and African-American playwrights, but also developing talent, encouraging new voices to enter the field and help shape theater for the 21st century. Uniquely, the artists will also receive 100 percent of box-office proceeds. This year, seven participants have each created 10-minute plays, accompanied by films, panels and more.
Jan. 15-Feb. 5, Kraine Theater, 85 E. Fourth St., $20-$25, firethistimefestival.com

TECHNOLOGY

Uptown Showdown: Humans vs. Machines

We've seen the scenario played out time and again in science fiction: mankind valiantly struggling for survival against the technology it created. Our unending fascination with this hypothetical is fielded once again next Tuesday at Symphony Space — but this time, it's comedians debating who would win in the most epic battle for evolutionary dominance, including Dave Hill, Carolyn Castiglia, Josh Gondelman, Ophira Eisenberg and Adam Lowitt. The debate draws on audience participation, who will also choose the night's victor.
Jan. 17, 8 p.m., 2537 Broadway $15, symphonyspace.org
T. MICHELLE MURPHY

FILM

"Moulin Rouge!" + Absinthe

You probably weren't old enough to drink when Baz Luhrmann's tragic masterpiece came out in 2001. And it's not as if Ewan McGregor and Nicole Kidman's love story inside Paris' storied nightclub wasn't already a psychedelic feast. But at Videology's back-to-back screenings this Friday, you'll relive the magic with an absinthe cocktail from Doc Henson's natural spirits.
Jan. 13, 6:30 & 9 p.m., $20, 308 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn

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Feel the hygge

Like the idea of a rustic vacay in nature? Skip roughing it for these luxe log cabin hotels.

Fodor's Travel

Dunton Hot Springs PROVIDED

The Ranch at Rock Creek

Spread over 6,600 acres of wilderness in southwestern Montana, the vibe at The Ranch at Rock Creek is lavishly rustic with an emphasis on the outdoors. Guests can choose from a stay in a restored log cabin or glamp it up in a canvas tent. There's also a spa and party barn on site.

El Capitan Canyon

Known as a pioneer of "glamping," El Capitan Canyon is tucked among groves of sycamore and oak trees in Santa Barbara. The resort offers a mix of safari tents, upscale cedar cabins and adventure yurts. The cabins offer front porches and A-line roofs, and interiors are decked out with all the comforts.

Dunton Hot Springs

The antique miner's cottages at Dunton Hot Springs in Colorado look historically accurate from the outside, but the interiors are anything but rustic. This entire resort is crafted from a restored 1800s ghost town — with hot springs on site. Meals are served up in an old saloon.

Winvian Farm

For an eccentric take on log-cabin decor, head to Winvian in Connecticut. The property is spread over 113 acres and has 18 wildly different cottages, each with a unique theme.

Steamboat Bay Fishing Club

Located on Alaska's Noyes Island, near Ketchikan, the Steamboat Bay Fishing Club offers two log-cabin-inspired places to stay, and the majestic experience of waking up to whale calls.

Nick's Cove

Located along Highway 1 on the coast of California's Tomales Bay, Nick's Cove has 12 nautical-themed cottages and a restaurant. The cabins blend seafaring touches with lush amenities, such as wood-burning stoves and claw-foot tubs. At night, guests can dig into homemade s'mores kits.

The Lodge & Spa at Brush Creek Ranch

This luxury dude ranch is spread over 30,000 acres in Wyoming, with plenty of choices in accommodation, ranging from new builds to renovated historic ones. Family style feasts are served up in the Lodge Great Room, and activities include horseback riding, fly fishing and clay shooting.

Post Ranch Inn

The Post Ranch Inn at Big Sur is located high above the Pacific Ocean, and the wood and glass design of the cottages is meant to blend in with the surrounding landscape. Accommodation style varies, including Tree Houses, which are built on stilts 9 feet above the forest floor.

The Ranch at Emerald Valley

Guests looking for a more rustic option at the famed Broadmoor resort can opt to stay at The Ranch at Emerald Valley in Colorado Springs, located just a few miles away in the 100,000-acre Pike National Forest. Take your pick from the 10 rustic log cabins; the main lodge offers a patio fire pit for morning "Cowboy Coffee" and evening storytelling.

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Giants offseason: Let JPP, Cruz walk

It might be time to say goodbye to two of Big Blue's biggest stars.

KRISTIAN DYER
@KristianRDyer
sports@metro.us

The New York Giants' $200 million offseason rebuild got them into the playoffs for the first time in five years. It just didn't take them any further.

Sunday's deflating 38-13 loss at the Green Bay Packers in the wild-card round ended the Giants season, underscoring that while this team has made progress from recent years they still are nowhere near elite.

Here are three things for the Giants to address this offseason:

The offensive line

Easily the weakest unit on the Giants on either side of the ball, the team and general manager Jerry Reese need to upgrade at right tackle and right guard this offseason. Ideally, the Giants will find an answer at left tackle in the NFL Draft, allowing current starter Ereck Flowers to move to the right side - but that likely won't happen. Simply, the team seems unwilling to explore that option.

So finding a good right tackle and a solution at right guard is ideal for the Giants, who struggled to protect Eli Manning much of the season. If they can address their offensive line issues, this team could be poised for a long and deep run in the playoffs next year.

Let JPP walk

This won't be popular for Giants fans, especially after a season in which Jason Pierre-Paul registered seven sacks. But the Giants showed over the last month of the season that they can get good production from their defensive line without Pierre-Paul. They sacked Aaron Rodgers five times on Sunday.

Given the relative strength of the defensive line and the good production from rookie Romeo Okwara and veteran defensive end Kerry Wynn, this might not be a huge priority. Plus the Giants can always look to the draft for some good edge rushers to bolster their overall depth.

He might be a Giants legend, but JPP has played a full season just once in the last four years. There's beginning to be diminishing returns here. Not an easy call by any stretch, but it's time for JPP to go.

It might be time for the Giants to say goodbye to Jason Pierre-Paul. GETTY IMAGES

Draft a replacement for Cruz

Given the spending on the defense this past offseason, the Giants shouldn't be afraid to look at the offensive line in the first round and then a wide receiver with their next pick. In Sterling Shepard and Odell Beckham Jr., the Giants have two bright players as downfield targets in their wide receiver stable.

But the veteran Victor Cruz was hot-cold this season and the Giants must be willing to let him walk if his price isn't reasonable. He struggled to find separation this season and his burst and wiggle of old just isn't there anymore. If he's willing to come back cheap (again) then the Giants should listen. If not, they should look to draft his replacement.

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JETS MADE RIGHT MOVE BY STANDING PAT

MARC MALUSIS
OPINION
Marc Malusis is a columnist for Metro New York and a host on WFAN and CBS Sports Radio.
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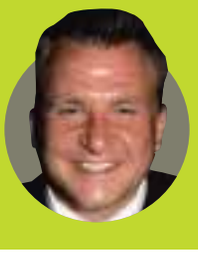

Todd Bowles deserved a third year as Jets head coach. GETTY IMAGES

Great job by Jets owner Woody Johnson as he made the right call last week when he decided that GM Mike Maccagnan and head coach Todd Bowles would be coming back to run the team in 2017. It was the correct call and it was the only call. Two years is just not enough time to correctly judge whether or not Bowles and Maccagnan are the right men for the jobs. Johnson made the bold statement, "they will get this done, in my opinion."

He did add that he is "in the game of winning" as all owners in the NFL should be and he believes that his decision to stay the course will bring about winning days ahead. He also knows that his team will have to build through the draft and free agency and it will take some time in order to do so.

When Johnson makes the comment that he is the game of winning while the Jets are fresh off a season in which they went 5-11 and they have not made the playoffs since 2010, it is tough to take. I get that, but Johnson does not pretend to be a football man and trusts the football men he puts in place to do their jobs.

Johnson did not listen to public pressure or fan outrage and stood by what he believes was right for his football team in order to bring about long-term success. I said it a few weeks back in this very column that Bowles should be back because consistency in message helps to bring about success in the NFL. Now, there are a lot of things that go into winning NFL games and the talent of the roster tops the list. You certainly need a QB to win consistently, but you also need a message and a vision and being in a constant state of change and turnover does not help the cause. In fact, it hurts it and makes a difficult job that much more difficult.

As he addressed the media, Johnson added, "I have confidence in Todd Bowles. I'm still very much in his corner. I think he's going to get better. I'm happy to have him and Mike. They have a plan to make the team better. They have a way to judge accountability and judge performance."

Instead of embracing change, Johnson embraced being stable and sticking to the vision that excited him as an owner two years ago. Johnson said there will be no playoff mandate for 2017 because he does not feel that type of declarative statement can be ultimately successful. The decision-makers will be judged by how the team is improving, especially when it comes to its young players.

Smart move by Woody, because it takes a potential distraction and removes it as a talking point. Imagine if the Jets started next season 0-4, all the talk would be about the job security of Bowles. Those questions and that conversation will now not dominate the headlines or sports talk radio because Johnson stated the team will not be judged by wins and losses but by the growth of their young players.

Both Maccagnan and Bowles have been here two seasons and had one good year and one brutal season. It is just not enough time to properly judge them. I don't know how much time they will be given moving forward, but I do know 24 months was not enough. We have already seen changes to the coaching staff and there will be wholesale personnel changes as well. A lot needs to change for the Jets, but what didn't need to change were those making those decisions. Good job, Woody. Good job.

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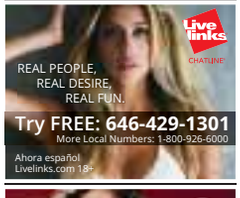

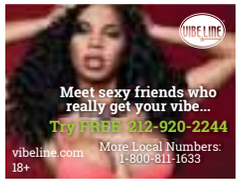

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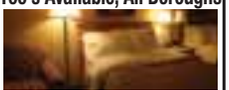

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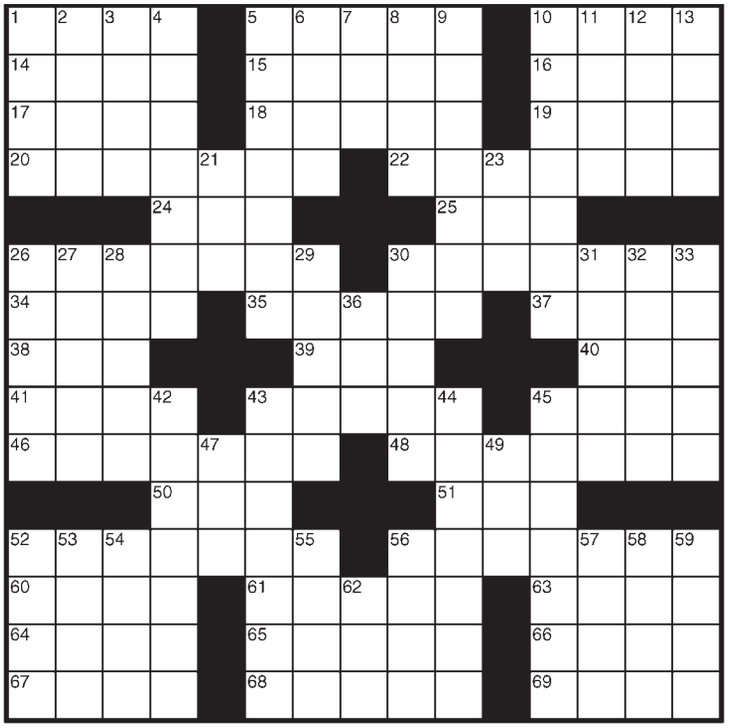

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metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Keep your life simple and dedicate your time to getting things done behind the scenes. Presenting your ideas before you are ready will lead to interference.

Taurus A change of scenery will open your mind to try new things. A financial opportunity will tempt you. Request assistance from those who've given you good advice.

Gemini Involvements with children, temptations and other people's problems will all have to be handled cautiously. Moderation and simplicity will be required.

Cancer Shed some light on what you have in mind with regard to professional strategy. Be creative and step outside your comfort zone in order to make a lasting impression.

Leo Appeal to those who are heading in the same direction as you. Step into a leadership position. Offer a comprehensive plan that will bring about popular change.

Virgo You can only do so much. Size up whatever situation you face and offer solid advice but don't feel the need to take over or you may end up being blamed.

Libra Put in the hours and see what you can accomplish. Less talk and more action will help you avoid trouble and controversy that could hinder your efforts and success.

Scorpio Use your energy and enthusiasm to do what you feel is worthwhile. Aim to improve your stamina by engaging in fitness activities that will improve your awareness.

Sagittarius You'll have difficulty managing your money. Don't let temptation or a get-rich-quick scheme lead to a loss. If you want change, you need to do something.

Capricorn Share your thoughts with your professional and personal partners. It's important to align your thoughts or plans to fit everyone's needs before making a decision.

Aquarius Keep an open mind, but don't feel you have to donate to a cause or pay for others. Listen and make suggestions, but protect your assets and financial future.

Pisces Steer clear of emotional spending, overindulgent people and deals that are too good to be true. Instead, you should pursue an idea that is cost-efficient. EUGENIA LAST

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C	R	I	T	T	E	R		O	U	T	R	A	C	E
L	E	V	E	E		E	R	I	E		S	O	L	D
I	N	A			A	V	E	N	S			R	A	G
M	E	N	U		R	U	S	K		K	A	T	I	E
B	E	A	S	T	I	E		S	H	E	P	A	R	D
			H	A	L				U	N	E			
I	R	K	E	D		M	A	G	N	O	L	I	A	S
D	E	A	R		V	I	S	I	T		I	D	L	E
E	L	L	E		C	R	A	V	E		K	O	B	E
E	Y	E	D		R	O	P	E	D		E	L	A	N

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